

REMARKS

Claims 21-40 are pending in the application. Claims 1-8, 10-18 and 20 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. Favorable consideration and allowance of new claims 21-40 are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regard as the invention. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1-8 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Consequently, the rejection of claims 1-8 has been rendered moot.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-5, 7, 10-15, 17 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Pat. No. 5,888,660 to Ard ("Ard") in view of the Examiners Official Notice. Claims 6 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Ard in view of the Examiners Official Notice, further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,491,278 to Thomsen ("Thomsen"). Claims 8 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Ard in view of the Examiners Official Notice, further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 2,406,152 to Levine ("Levine"). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

As noted above, each of claims 1-8, 10-18 and 20 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Consequently, the rejections of 1-8, 10-18 and 20 have been rendered moot.

New Claims

Claims 21-40 have been added. Favorable consideration and allowance of each of claims 21-40 are respectfully requested in view of the remarks herein.

New claim 21 is directed to an imaging system for imaging a bound document and includes, among other features, the features of at least one page that selectively covers one of the

first side and the second side of the bound document, wherein the first camera images the first side of the bound document, while the first side is not covered by the at least one page and the second side is covered by the at least one page, and the second camera subsequently images the second side of the bound document, while the second side is not covered by the at least one page and the first side is covered by the at least one page. New claim 30 is directed to a process for imaging a bound document, and includes the features of covering a second side of a bound document with at least one page, capturing an image of a first side of the bound document using a first camera, while the first side is not covered by the at least one page and the second side is covered by the at least one page, covering the first side of a bound document with the at least one page, and subsequently capturing an image of a second side of the bound document using a second camera, while the second side is not covered by the at least one page and the first side is covered by the at least one page. As discussed in further detail herein, none of the asserted references anticipate or render obvious at least the above-described features of each of claims 21 and 30.

Ard is directed to a scanner assembly 10 having a V-shaped scanning head 12 and a base assembly 14 having a book support 20 (Abstract, col. 2, ll. 44-53). In order to scan the book, the head 12 is moved downward to engage the book surface (col. 3, ll. 52-54). The V-shaped scanning head 12 includes a pair of scanning surfaces 120, 122 (in the form of glass plates) angled relative to each other to form a V-shaped scanning face (col. 4, ll. 14-17; Figs. 5 and 6). A pair of charge coupling devices (CCDs) 140, 142, a pair of lenses 136, 138 and a pair of bulbs 132, 134 are provided for capturing images of both sides of the book, the images being received through the scanning surfaces 120, 122 (col. 4, lines 21-24, Abstract). In this manner, Ard provides a separate scanning arrangement for each side of the book.

The pages of the book are simultaneously scanned through the glass plates 120, 122. More specifically, by providing a separate scanning arrangement for each side, Ard enables simultaneous scanning of two pages of a book (col. 4, ll. 35-38). In alternative arrangements, Ard provides a single detector array (i.e., CCD, lense and bulb), with mirrors or prisms directing the images from both sides of the book onto different portions of the array to scan one side of the book at a time (col. 4, ll. 41-45). Ard, however, only provides such sequential scanning in the context of a single scanning arrangement that is used to scan each side.

With regard to claim 21, Ard fails to disclose the feature of at least one page that selectively covers one of the first side and the second side of the bound document, while the other of the first side and the second side is imaged by the first or second camera, respectively. Ard further fails to disclose the features of the first camera imaging the first side of the bound document, while the first side is not covered by the at least one page and the second side is covered by the at least one page, and the second camera subsequently imaging the second side of the bound document, while the second side is not covered by the at least one page and the first side is covered by the at least one page. As discussed above, the glass plates 120, 122 of Ard simultaneously engage the pages of the book, to simultaneously scan the pages through the glass plates. Although Ard provides for sequential scanning of the pages of the book, this is achieved using a single array that is rotatable, or that is implemented with a mirror arrangement.

With regard to claim 30, Ard fails to disclose the features of covering a second side of a bound document with at least one page, capturing an image of a first side of the bound document using a first camera, while the first side is not covered by the at least one page and the second side is covered by the at least one page, covering the first side of a bound document with the at least one page, and subsequently capturing an image of a second side of the bound document using a second camera, while the second side is not covered by the at least one page and the first side is covered by the at least one page. As discussed in detail above, the glass plates 120, 122 of Ard simultaneously engage the pages of the book, to simultaneously scan the pages through the glass plates.

Thomsen was introduced as disclosing the feature of tilting a bound document at an angle toward an operator (see Office action, at pages 7-8), and Levine was introduced as disclosing the feature of a camera that is operated using a foot pedal (see Office action, at page 8). To the extent that both Thomsen and Levine were not cited as disclosing any of the above-described features of each of claims 21 and 30, and to the extent that neither Thomsen nor Levine disclose such features, Thomsen and Levine fail to cure the deficient disclosure of Ard.

In view of the foregoing, Ard, Thomsen and Levine, taken alone or in combination, fail to anticipate or render obvious the features of each of claims 21 and 30. Therefore, favorable consideration and allowance of each of claims 21 and 30 are respectfully requested.

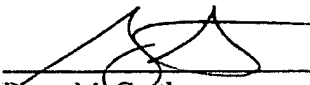
CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reason for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to amendment. Applicants respectfully request consideration of all filed IDS' not previously considered, by initialing and returning each Form 1449.

No charges are believed due. However, if any fees are due, they are being paid concurrently herewith on the Electronic Filing System (EFS) by way of Deposit Account authorization. Please apply all charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050, referencing Attorney Docket No. 16113-1308001.

Respectfully submitted,

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